

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Objection to the Abstract:

The Abstract has been amended so that it is now only one paragraph in length. Therefore, the objection to the Abstract as made on page 2 of the Office Action has been overcome by amendment.

Status of Claims:

No claims are currently being cancelled.

Claims 1-5, 9-12, 17-21 and 25-30 are currently being amended.

No claims are currently being added.

This amendment amends claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-30 are pending in this application.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter made in the Office Action with respect to claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 15, 16, 18, 20, 21 and 23-30.

Claim Objections:

In the Office Action, claims 1-30 were objected to due to informalities noted on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action. The presently pending claims have been amended based on these objections made in the Office Action, and it is submitted that each of the presently pending claims is unobjectionable.

35 U.S.C. Section 112, Second Paragraph Rejection of Claims:

In the Office Action, claims 1-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite, for the reasons set forth on pages 3 and 4 of the Office Action. The presently pending claims have been amended to particularly recite "incoming signals", whereby it is submitted that the presently pending claims fully comply with 35 U.S.C. Section 112, second paragraph.

Prior Art Rejection of Claims:

In the Office Action, claims 1, 3, 6, 9, 11 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,639,551 to Li et al.; and claims 17, 19 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Li et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,678,309 to Kitahara. Due to the filing herewith of a verified translation of the priority document of this application, in order to perfect the priority date of April 19, 2000, Li et al. (with a U.S. filing date of June 22, 2000) is no longer prior art with respect to this application.

Accordingly, these rejections have been overcome due to the filing of the verified translation of the priority document.

Conclusion:

Therefore, since there are no other objection or rejections raised in the Office Action, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

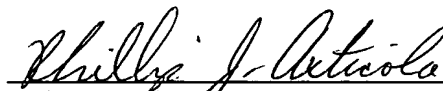
The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

September 16, 2004



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